

ON A NEW CRYPTOCARYA FROM LORD HOWE
ISLAND, TOGETHER WITH NOTES ON OTHER
PLANTS FROM THAT ISLAND.

BY J. H. MAIDEN.

(Plate xv.)

LAURINEÆ.

CRYPTOCARYA GREGSONI, n.sp.

In these Proceedings for 1898 (p. 138, pl. iii.) I described and figured the "Black Plum" of Lord Howe Island so far as I was able to do so from leaves and fruits only. Since then I have obtained flowers, and am able to supplement the description in the following words:—

Flowers in a very short apparently terminal bracteate panicle, not exceeding the generally crowded leaves. Pedicels very short and thick, angular or flattened, as is also the whole inflorescence and young branches, covered with minute rust-coloured hairs. Calyx-segments scarcely 1 line long, rust-coloured, hairy inside and outside. Glands large, free from the stamens, sessile.

The plant is hence a *Cryptocarya*, and I have pleasure in naming it after my friend Jesse Gregson, Esq., of Newcastle, who has actively assisted my botanical work for many years.

TILIACEÆ.

No species of *Elaeocarpus* has hitherto been recorded from Lord Howe Island, but I have obtained specimens of a species from a plant stated to be a shrub growing on the top of Mount Gower. A leaf and fruit are figured herewith (Pl. xv.), but no

flowers are available. I give a description of the leaves and fruits for general information.

Leaves narrow-oval, 2-2½ inches long, remotely denticulate in the upper half, narrowed into a petiole about ¼ inch long, coriaceous, with prominent principal veins, but not very prominently reticulate, glabrous when full grown. Inflorescence in short cymes crowded on the base of the last year's shoots. Drupe ovate, rather above ¾ inch long, bluish (?), the putamen only slightly wrinkled but *distinctly ribbed* in the one fruit examined.

SYMPLOCACEÆ.

SYMPLOCOS CANDELABRUM, Brand.

The following is taken from Brand's Revision of the Symplocaceæ (p. 39), in Engler's 'Pflanzenreich':—

"49. *S. candelabrum*, Brand, n.sp. (*S. Stawellii*, Hemsl. in Ann. of Bot. x. (1896) 242, non F. Muell.).—Arbor. Folia coriacea, 8-10 cm. longa, 2½-3 cm. lata, oblongo-elliptica, subintegra, in petiolum 3 cm. longum attenuata. Racemi glabri, pedicellis longitudine calycis; bracteae inaequales, lanceolato-acutae, ciliatae; calycis lobi tubo subbreiores; stamina c. 25 (ex 1 flore) longitudine corollae, ovarium glabrum; caetera spec. praec.* Fructus ignotus.

"Australien: Lord Howe Island (Maiden; Herb. Berlin).—Blüht im April."

Hemsley's reference is "*S. Stawellii*, F. Muell. Fragm. v. p. 60, ix. p. 77; Benth. Fl. Austral. iv. p. 292 (sub *spicata*)" (Ann. Bot. x. 242).

MYRSINACEÆ.

In the recent monograph of the Myrsinaceæ by Prof. Carl Mez in Engler's 'Pflanzenreich,' I observe that it is stated that there is no true *Myrsine* in Australia, the species hitherto referred to that genus belonging to the genus *Rapanea*, Aubl. I will deal with this matter on a subsequent occasion, only treating it now

* *S. gracilis*, Brongn. & Gris, etc.

as far as the Lord Howe Island flora is concerned. The genera *Myrsine* and *Rapanea* are chiefly distinguished by the following characters :—

Et filamenta et stylus manifesta; albumen ruminatum. Stigma magnum, florum ♀ labosum.....	<i>Myrsine.</i>
Antherae sessiles et stylus nullus albumen saepius laeve.	<i>Rapanea.</i>

Following are the previous references to Lord Howe *Myrsinaceae* :—

Myrsine crassifolia, R.Br., *M. platystigma*, F.v.M., both quoted in Muell. Fragm. (ix. 77); and other references given by Hemsley (Ann. Bot. x. 242).

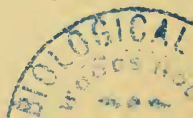
Mez does not admit *Rapanea crassifolia*, Mez (*Myrsine crassifolia*, R.Br.), to the list of Lord Howe plants, although he states (op. cit. 365) that it occurs in Norfolk Island. He, however, recognises two species of *Myrsine* from Lord Howe Island, viz., *Rapanea myrtilina*, Mez, n.sp., and *R. platystigma*, Mez (*Myrsine platystigma*, F.v.M.). He states that in herbaria the two species are mixed. The matter is of such importance that I transcribe Mez's descriptions of his new species here :—

“56. *R. myrtilina*, Mez, n.sp. Frutex humilis ramulis glaberrimis, crassiusculis, valde verrucosis. Folia petiolis 1-2 mm. longis stipitata, glaberrima, integerrima, oblongo-lanceolata, ± 4 mm. lata, basin versus persensim acuta apice rotundata, rigida, margine zona maxime incrassata cincta, laevia, subtus punctis lineisque brevibus creberrimis permanifestis insignia. Inflorescentiae e ramulis brevissime verruciformibus, valde dissitis formatae perpauci (1-2-) florum, non nisi fructiferae cognitae. Bacca globosa ± 4 mm. diam. metiens, punctulis atris marmorata, pedicello brevi (1-1, 5 mm.) crassoque stipitata, sepalorum lobis margine glabri triangularibus, acutis, atropunctatis insidens.

“Australien : Lord Howe's Island (Fullagar).

“Nota. In herbariis cum sequenti commixta.”

“57. *R. platystigma* (F. Muell.), Mez (*Myrsine platystigma*, F. Muell. Fragm. viii. 1873, 48).—Ramuli crassiusculi, tortuosi, glaberrimi. Folia glaberrima, petiolis usque ad 7 mm. longis stipitata, elliptica, basi breviter acuta apice rotundata, usque ad



22 mm. lata, rigidiuscule coriacea, margine ipso satis incrassata, costis suberectis subtus tenuissime filiformi-prominulis, punctis intrafoliaceis magnis raris, praesertim prope basin dissitis, in foliis junioribus subtus proslidentibus praedita, supra densissime punctulis minutissimis atris obsita. Inflorescentiae e ramulis verruciformibus formatae, 1-4 florum, ad 3 mm. longae, pedicellis brevissimis (vix 1 mm. longis), crassis, glabris; flores 2-2, 5 mm. longi, glabri; sepala subpatenti-pateriformia, ad $\frac{1}{3}$ connata, lobis squamiformi-ovatis, apice paullo fimbriatis, punctis perpaucis (1-2) nigris praeditis; petala permanifeste ad $\frac{1}{3}$ longit. connata, late elliptica, apice rotundata, atro-punctata; antherae (in flore ♂) quam petala paullo tantum breviores, latissime ovatae, apice rotundatae et hic puncto magno atro subdorsali praeditae; ovarium in flore ♂ ovoideum; stigmatibus magno loboso.

“Australien: Lord Howe’s Island (Fullagar), an der Küste des trop. Australiens (F. Bauer).—Kult. im Bot. Gart. Sidney.”

Mez states the difference between the two species briefly as follows:—

Folia \pm 13 mm. longa, oblongo-lanceolata, lineolata..... *myrtilina*.
 Folia \pm 50 mm. longa, elliptica, haud lineolata..... *platystigma*.

ORCHIDEAE.

DENDROBIUM GRACILICAULE, F.v.M., var. HOWEANUM, Maiden, these Proceedings, 1899, 382.

D. gracilicaule, F.v.M., (Fragm. ix. 78, as a Lord Howe Island plant).

Dr. A. B. Rendle (*Journ. Bot.* xxxix. 197, June, 1901) describes *Dendrobium (Stachyobium) Jonesii* from Geraldton, Johnstone River, Queensland, and surmises that it may be identical with my Lord Howe Island plant. The latter is very closely allied to *D. Jonesii* and seems to differ from it merely in the colour of the flowers, which is more greenish-yellow in the Lord Howe plant, and the transverse purple stripes of the labellum of *D. Jonesii* are only faintly marked in the other plant.

I am inclined to think that the proper view is to look upon the orchid in question as a form of *D. gracilicaule*, but the matter is

not one of much consequence, and Dr. Rendle's view may be the better one.

LYCOPODIACEÆ.

LYCOPodium VARIUM, R.Br.

With reference to the query in regard to this plant formerly expressed by me (these Proceedings, 1899, p. 383), the following letter from Mr. Hemsley settles the point as far as I am concerned:—

“With regard to *Lycopodium varium* being a native in Lord Howe Island, I can only say that the specimen is correctly named, and it is labelled ‘Lord Howe’s Island, Fullagar, Herb. F. Mueller, 1877,’ in the late Mr. Bentham’s handwriting. In Fl. Austral. (vii. 674), C. Moore stands as the collector, but there is no specimen at Kew except the one labelled as above explained. This was taken from Mueller’s herbarium by Bentham, when he had it on loan. Perhaps Mueller’s herbarium contains a specimen from Moore as well.” I cannot trace a specimen collected by Moore so far, and that point is unimportant.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE XV.

Eleocharpus sp.

Fig. 1.—Leaf and petiole.

Fig. 2.—Drupe.

Fig. 3.—Longitudinal view of putamen.

Fig. 4.—View of putamen from above, shewing its distinctly ribbed character.